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### **Maryland Energy Administration Will Begin Accepting Applications for Solar Energy Grants in June**

The Maryland Energy Administration is pleased to announce that we will be accepting applications for solar energy grants under the Solar Energy Grant Program. Grant applications will be accepted beginning on June 1, 2006, and MEA will begin issuing grant offers in July 2006.

The grants are available to residential, business, and local government entities and can be used to offset a portion of the cost of either photovoltaic (solar electricity generation) or solar water heating projects. Solar energy is a zero emissions source of power that is an alternative to using finite energy resources.

“Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. continues to be a strong supporter of solar energy. There is \$1.5 million available in the next fiscal year for solar and geothermal grants.” said Fred Davis, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration. “This is the most money ever committed to solar energy in Maryland.”

The grants are for 20 percent of your system cost in three categories, each of which has a maximum allowable grant amount:

- Solar Water Heating grants can be up to \$2000;
- Residential Photovoltaic Solar grants can be up to \$3000; and
- Nonresidential Photovoltaic Solar grants can be up to \$5000.

Applicants are encouraged to become familiar with the program terms and conditions and eligibility criteria prior to applying. There is a significant amount of supporting documentation required along with the application forms. For more information on solar energy opportunities, visit the Maryland Energy Administration’s Solar Energy Grant Program Web site at [www.energy.maryland.gov/programs/renewable/solargrant](http://www.energy.maryland.gov/programs/renewable/solargrant), call 1-800-723-6374 or email [meainfo@energy.state.md.us](mailto:meainfo@energy.state.md.us).